



Walking the Talk “In Christ”

As we have learned in these study guides this world can't go on much longer the way it is now headed. Violent and sinful conditions that we see all about us tell us that the earth will self-destruct unless something “big” takes place to bring an end to sin and suffering.

Even in our Native legends our ancestors predicted that a day will come when the world as we know it will end. Crazy Horse of the Ogallala Sioux saw in vision his life as a powerful warrior who would one day die at the hand of one of his own people dressed in a soldier's uniform. This vision was a prophecy that came true, just as Crazy Horse saw it. He also saw the day when the Creator would come to cleanse and recreate our world.

The Sioux have another legend which the Cheyenne people believe has great meaning. The legend tells the story that one day Mother Earth came to every village in the Sioux nation, healing all the people of their diseases and sickness. The people begged her to stay, but she said she had to leave. However, before she left she also made the prediction that someday the Creator Himself would return to renew the earth, healing all who are sick and bringing peace and harmony.

When Mother Earth left, a vision of a white buffalo appeared in her place. It was predicted by Mother Earth that someday white buffaloes would be born to signal the nearness of the Creator's return. In 1876 J. Wright

Image of a
white buffalo
STILL coming
from Monte

Native traditions have taught that
someday the Creator Himself will
return to renew the earth.



Mooar shot a white buffalo about 10 miles northwest of Snyder, Texas. There is a statue of that white buffalo today in the town. A white buffalo was born on the National Bison range in 1933, and twelve more white buffalo were born between 1939 and 1973. Another white buffalo was born in Janesville, Wisconsin on August 20, 1994, and in 1996 four more white buffalo calves were born. As a result many Sioux people today believe that the end of the world is coming very soon.

Source: *Perspective Digest*, vol. 6, no. 2, 2001. Pp. 14–16.

In the far north Maniilaq, an Eskimo prophet who lived before the coming of the white missionaries, predicted the day would come when the Creator would



Maniilaq, the Eskimo prophet, taught that someday the Creator Himself will return in the skies with a glory greater than the northern lights.



The question comes to all of us, “What is our own relationship with our Creator?”

return in the skies in a glory which would be greater than the aurora borealis, the spectacular northern lights. His return would be seen by all people around the globe. Maniilaq also taught that when the Creator returns, the earth’s surface would be destroyed and cleansed by fire. From this molten mass the Creator would recreate a new land, a new country of peace in which people would live forever without knowing death or sickness.

Source: *Maniilaq the Eskimo Prophet*. LLT Productions, 1998.

We are living in unusual times. Never have we seen so many man-made and natural tragedies, because of evil and deceit in the hearts of men. In spite of this there is also the dramatic spreading of the great news of the soon-coming Savior throughout the world. Prophecies predicted in the Bible and by our Native prophets are now being fulfilled before our eyes. The question is: Are we and our families ready? Are we doing everything we can to prepare for the second coming of Jesus and a life without end in a land without sin?

Key Thought. The Bible has made many predictions of things that will take place just before Jesus returns again. It’s amazing that only a very few still need to be fulfilled. We can be completely confident that these few predictions will also happen soon. Are we prepared for this greatest event of all times?

We have no guarantee of life from day to day. We might encounter health problems or tragedies that could take our lives. The question still comes to all of us, Are we ready for our Creator's return?

In the short time we are given to live in this world, God urges us to prepare for a better world to come. Are we allowing God to fulfill His promise of working "in us" in order to prepare us for heaven? What are we doing today about the truths we learn from the teachings of the Bible?

When Jesus comes He will
close shop in this old world.

BIBLE ANSWERS

1. What will the followers of Jesus do if they are truly looking forward to eternity in God's new country? 1 John 3:3. "And everyone who has this hope in Him _____, just as He [Jesus] is pure."

(All quotations from the Bible in these lessons are taken from the New King James Version (NKJV) unless otherwise noted.)

Note. Often a wife and children will carefully prepare and look forward to the return of their husband and father who has been away on a business trip. In the same way we, as God's created children, look forward to the second coming of Christ. We long to be united with the One who loves us, protects us, and wants only good things for us.

What kind of character will Jesus see in us when He comes? Does our lifestyle reveal to our neighbors and

friends that we are sincere in our loving commitment to our Creator and Savior?

2. When Jesus comes is there the possibility of a second chance to make things right? Revelation 22:11–12. Circle one: (1) Yes. (2) No.





Today is the time
we decide for
eternity.

Note. One thing that is clearly taught in the Bible is that our eternal destiny will be decided before Jesus comes. Jesus says, “Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work.” There will be no second chance to make our lives right after Jesus comes. At His return He says, “He who is filthy, let him be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him be righteous still.” When Jesus comes He will close shop in this old world. He isn’t going to move us from one bad world to another. In heaven’s land our deepest desires will be satisfied.

Should we die before Jesus comes, our present actions and intents will be evidence of our decision of whether we accept or reject Christ. Either we have been living according to God’s plan for our lives or we have been living according to our own plans and desires. According to Scripture, when a person dies in that moment “all their plans come to an end” (Psalm 146:4, NLT). If we have not accepted Jesus as our personal Lord and Savior before then, it is forever too late. There is no second chance. Today is the time we decide for eternity.

3. What is God’s message today to those who desire to be saved in His kingdom? 2 Corinthians 6:2. “Behold, _____ is the accepted time; behold,

_____ is the day of salvation.” (Read also Deuteronomy 30:19–20.)

Note. The Lord tells us that *now* is the time to decide whether or not we really want to live in a world without heartache and sin and allow God to carry out His plan for our life. What is the desire of your heart? Is it your desire to do what God has asked you to do?

4. What will qualify a person to enter the kingdom of heaven? Matthew 7:21. “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who _____ of My Father in heaven.”

Note. This commitment is what separates the true Christian from the false. It is one thing to believe God’s commandments are right, but it is another thing to obey them. Some children say “yes, yes” to their parents when they are asked to do something, but they don’t follow through with their promises. Then there are children who, when asked to do something, respond immediately and willingly by doing what they are asked to do. It is the same with the Christian. If a person is willing to obey, God will show that person wonderful reasons behind what He asks him/her to do. The protection, peace, and security of obeying God’s commandments

 **God isn't looking for lip service, but faith-actioned acceptance of Jesus seen in our lifestyle.**

are experienced only when we do “God’s will.” (See John 7:17.)

What God looks for in the judgment is not lip service, but evidence of our acceptance of Jesus as seen in our lifestyle and obedience to God’s will. People like this are safe to save in the kingdom, because they don’t want sin and its horrible results to mess up everything again.

 **T**here is true peace
in trusting God. He
wants us to give “all”
of our hearts to Him.

5. How many of God’s Ten Commandments will the true Christian endeavor to follow? James 2:10-12. (*Circle one.*) (1) Most of them. (2) All but one. (3) All of them.

Note. To be willing to do “all” that God has asked us to do means to give “all” of our heart to Him. When we endeavor to keep “all” of God’s commandments, God is able to pour out “all” of His blessings upon us. Only if we have an open heart to do whatever God asks us to do, can we be taught by Him throughout eternity.

If we do only the things that are convenient or keep only the commandments we feel are important, then a total relationship with God cannot develop. To those who desire to be totally committed, God is able to give

total peace and fulfillment. With God's help are you willing to keep "all" of God's commandments?

6. What attitude does Jesus look for in judgment?

2 Corinthians 8:12. "For if there is first a _____, it is accepted according to what one has, and not according to what he does not have."

By grace we are saved, and not of ourselves, it is the gift of God (Ephesians 2:8, paraphrased).



Note. A great principle is given here to help us understand how we will be judged by God. Those who are "in Christ" are those who are willing with all of their hearts to follow Him. It's not so much what we know but what we do with what we know. "A willing mind" is what Jesus looks for in judging who He will save eternally.

If there is a willingness or a true desire in your heart to faithfully follow Christ, you are one of God's children for eternity.

7. Because God "is rich in mercy," and because "he loves us," what promise can He fulfill because of what Jesus has done for us and is doing for us?

Ephesians 2:4-10. (Circle one) (1) Make us alive together with Christ. (2) By grace, through faith, save us.

(3) Recreate us “in Christ” for good works. (4) All of these.

Note. You have now come to the end of this 30-lesson Bible study series. You have learned much to help you understand the basic fundamental beliefs of a Bible-based Christian. The question now comes: Have you accepted the Lord Jesus as your personal Savior from sin? Do you want to show your love for Him by following Him and obeying Him? Are you willing to do all that you have learned? Is it your desire to let God, your



Creator carry out the Bible principles in your life? Jesus is standing and waiting with open arms.

In the early spring of 1954 electrician Mark Evans of Anchorage, Alaska, was asked by the state government to do an unusual job. He was asked to check an electrical line which ran from the ocean shore to a scaffold erected a half mile away on the packed ice in the middle of Turnagain Arm Bay which flows out to the open sea. The instruments on the scaffold measured and signaled the first movement of the ice at the time of the spring breakup, which then causes a rush of the



A decision had to be made. With all his strength Mark leaped across the open water.



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ice out to sea. It was a treacherous job because no one knows when this time of breakup will happen.

After his inspection of the scaffold, Mark began heading back across the half mile of packed ice to shore. Halfway across Mark suddenly heard a loud, piercing, cracking sound. His heart froze as he immediately realized the breakup had started! In minutes he knew he could be swept out to sea with the ice. Mark dropped his tools and dashed across the moving ice toward shore.

The whole world seemed to be moving. As he neared the shore, to his horror he saw the ice pack he was on separating from the shore line to start its journey out to sea with him on it! As the separation grew wider and wider, he realized that if he did not immediately jump to shore across the narrow expanse of water while he could, in seconds the distance across the swift open water would be too wide to jump.

Because no one knew his exact whereabouts at that time, he would quickly be out of range for rescue. A decision had to be made and backed with action! It was a life or death matter! With all of his strength Mark ran and leaped across the open water to shore. As he lay breathlessly on the shore, he saw the cracking, fast-moving ice floe rush out to sea.

Source: *Anchorage Daily News*. April 2, 1981.

Mark believed the ice floe had started, and that belief resulted in action. True faith in Jesus also results in action and in obedience. Those who say they believe—yet choose not to follow the teachings of Jesus—are not being honest with Him or themselves. This results in separation from God. (See James 2:19.)



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he theme of the entire Bible is Jesus' plan to rescue you and me. He has loved us with an everlasting love.

The entire story of the Bible is the Creator's plan to rescue you and me from this sinful world and eternal death. The purpose of the teachings of the Bible and these study guides is to draw you close to God, in preparation for eternity.

In your search to know Jesus, it is our hope that you can get close to a committed Christian friend who can answer questions that may have come to your mind as a result of these studies. It is part of God's plan that we "press together" as Christian friends in following Jesus. It's God's plan that we use our unified efforts to spread these wonderful messages of hope and salvation to our families, friends, to our nations, and to the world. Friend, Jesus is standing with open arms to welcome you as a child of God. If you have not yet decided to accept Jesus as Lord and Savior of your life, why not do it now?



*“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son,
that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life”
(John 3:16).*

Simply repeat this prayer:

Our dear heavenly Father, I recognize I am a sinner. I ask You to forgive my sins. I ask You to come into my life through the power of the Holy Spirit. I want You to be the Savior and Lord of my life. I ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Closing Thought. We want to thank you for studying the *Native New Day* Bible studies. We trust that these guides have been a blessing to you. We have other lessons that deal with topics of Christian growth which we would like to send to you. Please contact us through the address found on these lessons. Also let us know what we can do to be a further blessing and help to you in your study and Christian growth. May God wonderfully bless you.



Native New Day

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